

Camp Tour Fun Facts

Aspen Trees

Aspen Trees have many remarkable qualities. Did you know that if you rub the bark of an aspen tree, there will be a little bit of white powder on your hands? This powder can actually be used as a sunscreen, while it has a very low SPF, it can still work in a pinch. Also, the leaves of the aspen tree contain the same chemical compound as aspirin, however the leaves are very bitter and some people think it tastes kind of like soap. Aspen trees are not a single tree, but the groves are all connected and are a single tree.

Moose

Moose are herbivores and eat up to 50-60 pounds of various plants a day. Just like a cow, moose have 4 stomachs! They also don't have upper-front teeth, so one way they eat is by grabbing a branch and pulling sideways with their tough lips and tongue to strip all the leaves off the branch. One of the moose's favorite snacks is aspen leaves!

Moose tracks are very similar to both elk and deer tracks with one exception, their size. While deer tracks are about 3 inches long and elk are about 4 inches long, moose tracks are about 6 inches long. They are heart-shaped and show the two toes of the moose.

Chipmunks

One tiny chipmunk can gather up to 165 acorns in one day. Chipmunks have pouches inside of their cheeks in which they store food when foraging. The main entrance of a chipmunk burrow can extend up to 20 feet in length! A group of chipmunks is called a scurry.

Spruce and Pine Trees

Up here at Sky Ranch there are a lot of spruce and pine trees. They both look quite similar and can be very hard to tell apart. There are a couple ways however! A pine tree has needles on twigs in groups of 2-5 while a spruce has single needles on its twigs.

Hummingbirds

Hummingbirds are super unique and are one of the only species of bird that can actually fly backwards. During the day hummingbirds' hearts beat 1,260 times per minute, and at night when a hummingbird sleeps its heart rate goes down to 50 beats per minute. This is so that it can preserve energy when it is not eating during the night.